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AHE ENITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Wada et al.

Examiner:

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RECORDING/REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND OPTICAL

RECORDING/REPRODUCING METHOD

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on October 23, 2001.

By: Juniter Carllon

Name/ Jennifer Carlson

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D. C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-identified application filed herewith, please enter the following preliminary amendment:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 18, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--As disclosed in JP 2000-235727 A, for the optical element 54, it is possible to use an arrangement of forming thin film resistances on the optical element to voltage divide the signal applied from the outside, and applying these divided voltages to the respective segment electrodes. With this arrangement, even with a high number of segment electrodes like forty, the voltage applied from outside can be split three ways, including the voltage applied to the opposing electrode. --

